## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.      (Currently Amended)  A method for accessing file system entities, comprising:

receiving a request from a requesting node to access a file system entity having an entity name;

checking for the entity name in a listing;

based on a result of the check,

searching for an alternate entry corresponding to the file system entity, the alternate entry comprising the entity name extended by an uncommon string of characters including an expandable sequence;

substituting the expandable sequence by at least one identifier identifying the requesting node, wherein the requesting node comprises a process; and

retrieving information corresponding to the expanded sequence, and selectively permitting access by the requesting node to the file system entity.

2.      (Original)  The method of claim 1, wherein the retrieved information includes a location of the file system entity.

3.      (Original)  The method of claim 1, wherein the retrieved information comprises an information node.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, said retrieving comprising:

looking up the information in a system view table using the expanded sequence;

and

returning the information to the requesting node.


5. (Canceled).


6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the file system entity is at least

one of a file and a folder.


7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the identifier is

representative of a context of the requesting node.


8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the context is one

of user identification and network interface.


9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, said searching comprising:

looking up the alternate entry in the file system view table based on a

determination that the system view table is missing a first entry corresponding to the file

system entity.


10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising:

sending information corresponding to the first entry to the requesting node based on a determination that the file system view table has the first entry.

11.    (Currently Amended)  A method for accessing file system entities, comprising:

receiving a request from a requesting node to access a file system entity having an entity name;

determining whether a file system view table has a first entry corresponding to the file system entity;

searching the file system view table for an alternate entry based on the determination, the alternate entry comprising the entity name extended by an uncommon string of characters including an expandable sequence;

substituting the expandable sequence of the alternate entry by at least one identifier identifying the requesting node, wherein the requesting node comprises a process; ~~and~~

retrieving information corresponding to the expanded alternate entry; and selectively permitting access by the requesting node to the file system entity.

12.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 11, said retrieving comprising:

looking up the information in the file system view table using the expanded alternate entry; and

returning the information to the requesting node.

13.     (Original)  The method of claim 11, said searching comprising:

looking up the alternate entry in the file system view table based on a

determination that the system view table is missing the first entry.


14.     (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 13, further comprising:

sending information corresponding to the first entry to the requesting node based

on a determination that the file system view table has the first entry.


15.     (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 12, said returning

comprising:

sending the information to the requesting node based on a determination that the

requesting node is permitted access to the information; and

sending an error indication to the requesting node based on a determination that

the requesting node is not permitted access to the information.


16.     (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 11, further comprising:

sending an error indication to the requesting node based on a determination that

the file system view table is missing the alternate entry.

17.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 12, further comprising:

sending an error indication to the requesting node based on a determination that the file system view table is missing the information corresponding to the expanded alternate entry.


18.    (Currently Amended)  An apparatus for accessing file system entities, comprising:

a memory including an operating system that:

receives a request from a requesting node to access a file system   entity having an entity name;

checks for the entity name in a listing;

based on a result of the check,

searches for an alternate entry corresponding to the file system entity, the alternate entry comprising the entity name extended by an uncommon string of characters including an expandable sequence;

substitutes the expandable sequence of the alternate entry by at least one identifier identifying the requesting node, wherein the requesting node comprises a process; and

retrieves information corresponding to the expanded alternate entry; and

selectively permits access by the requesting node to the file system entity; and

a processor that runs the operating system.

19.     (Currently Amended)  An apparatus for accessing file system entities, comprising:

means for receiving a request from a requesting node to access a file system entity having an entity name;

means for checking for the entity name in a listing;

means for searching for an alternate entry corresponding to the file system entity, the alternate entry comprising the entity name extended by an uncommon string of characters including an expandable sequence;

means for substituting the expandable sequence of the alternate entry by at least one identifier identifying the requesting node, wherein the requesting node comprises a process; and

means for retrieving information corresponding to the expanded alternate entry; and

means for selectively permitting access by the requesting node to the file system entity.


20.     (Original)  The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the retrieved information includes a location of the file system entity.


21.     (Original)  The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the retrieved information comprises an information node.

22.    (Previously Presented)  The apparatus of claim 19, said means for retrieving comprising:

means for looking up the information in a system view table using the expanded alternate entry; and

means for returning the information to the requesting node.


23.    (Canceled).


24.    (Original)  The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the file system entity is at least one of a file and a folder.


25.    (Previously presented)  The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the identifier is representative of a context of the requesting node.


26.    (Previously presented)  The apparatus of claim 25, wherein the context is one of user identification and network interface.


27.    (Original)  The apparatus of claim 22, said means for searching comprising:

means for looking up the alternate entry in the file system view table based on a determination that the system view table is missing a first entry corresponding to the file system entity.

28.    (Previously Presented)  The apparatus of claim 27, further comprising:

means for sending information corresponding to the first entry to the requesting

node based on a determination that the file system view table has the first entry.

29.    (Currently Amended)  A computer-readable medium containing

instructions for causing a computer to perform a method to facilitate access to file

system entities, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a requesting node to access a file system entity having

an entity name;

checking for the entity name in a listing;

based on a result of the check,

searching for an alternate entry corresponding to the file system entity, the

alternate entry comprising the entity name extended by an uncommon string of

characters including an expandable sequence;

substituting the expandable sequence of the alternate entry by at least

one identifier identifying the requesting node, wherein the requesting node comprises a

process; and

retrieving information corresponding to the expanded alternate entry; and

selectively permitting access by the requesting node to the file system entity.

30.    (Original)  The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the

retrieved information includes a location of the file system entity.

31.    (Original)  The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the retrieved information comprises an information node.

32.    (Previously Presented)  The computer-readable medium of claim 29, said retrieving comprising:

looking up the information in a system view table using the expanded alternate entry; and

returning the information to the requesting node.

33.    (Canceled).

34.    (Original)  The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the file system entity is at least one of a file and a folder.

35.    (Previously presented)  The computer-readable medium of claim 29, wherein the identifier is representative of a context of the requesting node.

36.    (Previously presented)  The computer-readable medium of claim 35, wherein the context is one of user identification and network interface.

37.    (Original)  The computer-readable medium of claim 32, said searching comprising:

looking up the alternate entry in the file system view table based on a determination that the system view table is missing a first entry corresponding to the file system entity.

38.     (Previously Presented)  The computer-readable medium of claim 37, further comprising:

sending information corresponding to the first entry to the requesting node based on a determination that the file system view table has the first entry.

39.     (Canceled).

40.     (Currently Amended)  An apparatus for accessing file system entities, comprising:

a secondary storage comprising a plurality of file system entities, each of the file system entities including an entity name;

a memory comprising:

an operating system including:

a file system view table including a plurality of entries;

a lookup routine operable to receive a request from a requesting node to access a file system entity; determine whether the file system view table has a first entry corresponding to the file system entity; search the file system view table for an alternate entry based on the determination, the alternate entry comprising an entity name of the

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requested entity extended by an uncommon string of characters including

an expandable sequence; substitute the expandable sequence of the

alternate entry by at least one identifier identifying the requesting node,

wherein the requesting node comprises a process; ~~and~~ retrieve

information corresponding to the expanded alternate entry<u>; and selectively</u>

<u>permit access by the requesting node to the file system entity</u>; and

a processor that runs the operating system.

41.     (Currently Amended)  A distributed system with a network having devices with requesting nodes for accessing file system entities, one of the devices comprising:

a secondary storage comprising a plurality of file system entities, each of the file system entities including an entity name;

a memory comprising:

an operating system including:

a file system view table including a plurality of entries;

a lookup routine operable to receive a request from a requesting node to access a file system entity; determine whether the file system view table has a first entry corresponding to the file system entity; search the file system view table for an alternate entry based on the determination, the alternate entry comprising an entity name of the requested entity extended by an uncommon string of characters including an expandable sequence; substitute the expandable sequence of the alternate entry by at least one identifier identifying the requesting node, wherein the requesting node comprises a process; and retrieve information corresponding to the expanded alternate entry; and selectively permit access by the requesting node to the file system entity; and

a processor that runs the operating system.

42.    (Currently Amended)  A method for accessing file system entities, comprising:

sending, from a requesting node to a lookup routine, a request for access to a file system entity having an entity name, wherein the lookup routine performs a method comprising:

checking for the entity name in a listing;

based on a result of the check,

searching for an alternate entry corresponding to the file system entity, the alternate entry comprising the entity name extended by an uncommon string of characters including an expandable sequence;

substituting the expandable sequence of the alternate entry by at least one identifier identifying the requesting node, wherein the requesting node comprises a process; and

retrieving information corresponding to the expanded alternate entry;

selectively permitting access by the requesting node to the file system entity; and

receiving the retrieved information.


43.    (Original)  The method of claim 42, said retrieving comprising:

looking up the information in a system view table using the expanded alternate entry in various permutations.

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